MISSOURI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes December 5, 2000

Present:

David Bedan, Audubon Society Andrew Clements, City of St. Joseph Arnold Meysenburg, Conservation Fed. Tom Netzer, Ozark Greenways Chris Ricks, Highway Patrol Bob Kirkman, Jackson County Wheelman Mike Murray, USCF Martin Pion, LAB Effective Cycling Debbie Schnack, DNR Dennis Scott, MoDOT Terry Whaley, Springfield MPO Willard Worts, DESE Roger Crocker, Mo. Dept. of Health Michael R. Herron, KCMO Parks & Recs. Michael J. Right, AAA Jackie Allen, Highway Safety Joan Bray, Legislature

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Absent:

Jeff Elson, Attorney at Law, Brookfield Marlene Nagel, MARC Bob Smith, Division of Tourism Lisa Holliday, GCPFH Kyle Kittrell, MoDOT

Others:

Dave Edwards, FHWA
Angela Herman, Mo. Dept. of Health
Jan Skouby, MoDOT
Terry Keck, Mo. Dept. of Health

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I. Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Mike Murray chaired this meeting of the MOBPAC; and Donna Ridenhour recorded the proceedings.

Mr. Murray requested the members introduce themselves and give their affiliations.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and motion to approve was made by Tom Netzer, seconded by Willard Worts, and carried.

II. Subcommittee Reports

A. Planning/Design/Physical Environment

This subcommittee continues to develop an improved bicycle suitability map. Currently, we are waiting for additional data. Need to name the map. Talked about "Bicycle Suitability Map."

The data in the MoDOT system is not real reliable. The data is collected each year (pavement condition, width of shoulders, etc.). What is the best approach to take to get data? Need a map that shows what road has shoulders. Could put volumes on the map.

Discussed MoDOT, Department of Natural Resources, and Department of Tourism printing the map jointly.

There isn't much information on county roads, but probably will be in the next five years.

Will put the Bicentennial Trail, Katy Trail, and Mississippi River Trail on the map.

Action Items -

- 1. Map working on
- 2. Get signage going on existing routes (Share the Road). Dennis Scott has a draft and will bring to next meeting.
- 3. Get a set of standards set up.

B. Legislation/Funding

Various legislative ideas were discussed. Focus will be directed this session to adding and/or clarifying bike/ped as project that can be funded with the State Transportation Fund and the STAR Fund. Representative Joan Bray will look at pedestrian laws. Meg Harding, a new state representative from this (pro bike/ped) Kansas City area is expected to be handling inaugural pieces of bike/ped legislation.

A bike/ped caucus is planned of senators and representatives that are bike/ped friendly.

Ask MoDOT for a policy on funding.

C. Safety/Education/Enforcement

Street Smarts – What is the most economic way to use this and get it out to people? How do we customize the cover? MoDOT could add logo on back of cover.

Recommendation for distribution –

- 1. Who should it go to?
- 2. How do we get feedback? What use is this if we don't know if people actually look at it?

Suggestions -

- 1. Include a business reply card with the manual.
- 2. Do a pilot of 500/1,000 with the idea to get feedback and see if this would be useful. This should tell us if it is worth sending out the rest.
- 3. Officers that speak with school children could pass it out.

Discussed the July issue of the Missouri Drivers Guide. In the January issue there is information about sharing the road and more information coming out in the next issue (07/01).

Action Item -

Need to circulate ideas and try to get this finalized.

III. <u>Legislation</u> - John Cauwenbergh, MoDOT Senior Governmental Affairs Specialist, discussed the Bill process with the committee.

- 1. Find a good sponsor. Someone who believes in the cause.
- 2. Work closely with this person and let them talk with someone who knows the ropes. Find out your strategy.
- 3. Find out if there is any opposition and what their points are then try to compromise. Look at ways to use the process. Take your bill and put it on as an amendment to another bill.
- 4. Find out who your allies are and maybe they can contact a representative or senator and tell them they support your bill.

IV. <u>Long-Range Transportation Plan –</u>

Jan Skouby, MoDOT Long-Range Transportation Planning Coordinator, discussed Bicycle/Pedestrian accommodations in the LRTP. Need to get a good understanding of the needs and identify standards for bicycle/pedestrian accommodations before proceeding. This is the reason the bike/ped modes were the only modes for which a dollar need was not stated in the LRTP. Mike Murray asked what resources for bike/ped can be expected.

V. Promotion/Public Information

Angela Herman, Missouri Department of Health, discussed the *Walk Our Children to School Day 2000*. The committee was given a handout of information regarding this. There were fourteen Missouri schools that registered at the national site.

Missouri joined 47 other states across the nation in National *Walk Our Children to School Day* on Wednesday, October 4, 2000. School nurses were asked to coordinate the event. A feed back form was provided to assist in the measurement of the success of the event and the school's technical assistance needs in regard to pedestrian and bicycle issues in their district.

Other community leaders were informed about the event in order for the event to be a success in their community. Other community leaders who received letters were school superintendents, local public health agencies, chronic disease health educators, and municipal league members.

As a result of this, the Mayor of Kansas City presented a Resolution to the Cardiovascular Health Program, at the Kansas City, Missouri City Council meeting on October 5, 2000, declaring that day as the official *Walk Our Children to School Day* in Kansas City.

In order to encourage employee participation within the DOH Division of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, employees were given an hour of administrative leave to participate. In order to verify adult participation, the Adult Excuse Form signed by a child was required.

A joint news release was developed by the Missouri Department of Health's Office of Public Information and the other coordinating agencies; DESE, MoDOT, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health. As a result of the news release and promotion by communities several media outlets contacted the Missouri Department of Health's Cardiovascular Health Program for additional information.

How are kids getting to school? Are sidewalks needed? What are the safe routes to school? Need to bring in other partners like Department of Public Safety. Discussed conducting a study of how children currently get to school. Need to get interested agencies together and put together a plan for such a study.

Action Item -

Dennis Scott and Angela Herman will work together and schedule a meeting to discuss possible "Home to School" study .

VI. Traffic Calming/Roundabouts -

Traffic calming is the concept of dealing with the problems of:

- 1. Too much speed
- 2. Too much volume of traffic

Can control speed by rearranging the environment using various design and other tools.

Roundabouts – Traffic efficiency for intersections. Entering and exiting speed has to be very slow, no traffic light and no stop signs.

VII. Mississippi River Trail –

Dennis Scott went to a meeting on November 15, 2000, regarding the development of the Mississippi River Trail from St. Louis to Minnesota.

Minnesota and Wisconsin have done a lot of work to get some solid routes.

At the next MRT group meeting tourism people will be brought in. Also, there will be work on the MRT route analysis. Need to get the route more clearly defined in Missouri.

VIII. New Members – Andy Clements presented the recommendations of the membership subcommittee:

Brad Sinn – Patti Banks Associates

3700 Broadway, Suite 300 Kansas City, MO 64111

Dale Brigham Department of Nutritional Science

308 Gwynn Hall

University of Missouri Columbia, MO 65211

Lee Orth – Branson Public Schools

400 Cedar Ridge Drive Branson, MO 65616

Steve McLuckie - 4600 Manhasser Drive

Columbia, MO 65203

Mike Schilling – 1027 S. Hew

Springfield, MO 65807

Meg Harding – State Capitol, Room 130 D-B

Jefferson City, MO 65101 6924 NW Highway 9 Kansas City, MO 64152

It was also decided when a bicycle/pedestrian caucus is formed within the legislature, any current or former member may serve on the committee in an exofficio status.

IX. Old Business

- A. Program Brochure Dennis Scott had copies of the brochure initiated by the committee. There are 5,000 being printed.
- B. Report to Commission The committee report to the commission should be given at the March meeting.
- C. Bridge Update The Bridge division did not yet have the information requested at the last meeting. The response has been promised for the March 2001 meeting. Dennis Scott reported district and traffic staff would be meeting to discuss possibility of a bicyclist-activated warning system for the Jefferson City bridge. Andy Clements mentioned the need for bicycle/pedestrian accommodations on the Atchison Bridge that is being replaced. Also, the replacement of the Herman Bridge will accommodate bicycle/pedestrian needs.
- D. Share the Road Campaign Andy Clements, Martin Pion, Mike Murray, and Dennis Scott agreed to serve on an Adhoc committee to develop a "Share the Road" campaign proposal.

X. Reports

- A. MPO Reports There were reports from several MPOs. EWGCC will be updating regional bicycle/pedestrian plan. MARC is hiring a full-time bicycle/pedestrian planner and developing a metro route plan. St. Joseph has completed a bike guide publication showing 53 routes in the region and their bicycle/pedestrian master plan, with design standards, is nearing completion.
- B. Enhancement Program The program coordinator was unable to attend. However, there was some discussion. The next application deadline is Mid-April which will be the last for funds available from the current federal legislation. There was discussion about unobligated funds. Dave Edwards indicated one option for these funds would be a safety education project.
- C. Branson Report Walkable Communities This item was postponed due to time constraints.
- D. Program/Committee Letter to Organizations A letter went to many organizations around the state to inform them about MoDOT's bicycle/pedestrian policy and about MoBPAC.
- E. Amtrak Letter Mike Murray has drafted a letter to MoDOT's Railroad Administrator to encourage further improvements to bike access.
- F. Defining State Routes and Standards It was reported that during the first half of 2001, defining routes of state/national significance, along with improving MoDOT standards, would be a focus of the bicycle/pedestrian program staff.

